GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3088
ANSWERED ON:12.03.2003
HIV IN PREGNANT WOMEN
GADDAM GANGA REDDY

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a United Nations Report highlights that HIV prevalence among pregnant women has been found to be higher than one percent in Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland and Tamilnadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to contain its spread?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(SHRI A. RAJA)

(a) & b) Yes Sir. The nation-wide HIV sentinel surveillance round 2001, conducted by the National AIDS Control Organisation revealed that the HIV Prevalence among pregnant women in states of Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland and Tamilnadu was 1.5%, 1.75%, 1.75, 1.25% and 1.13% respectively

c) In order to prevent and control the spread of HIV/AIDS in India, Govt. of India has launched a comprehensive National AIDS Contro Programme, currently under implementation throughout the country as a centrally sponsored scheme with the following components: -

- Preventive interventions for high risk populations through targeted interventions adopting a multi-pronged strategy including peer counseling and behaviour change communication.

- Preventive interventions for the general population through programmes for blood safety, voluntary counseling and testing services, prevention of parent to child transmission of HIV, information education and communication (IEC) & awareness building among adolescents and sensitization for the AIDS Vaccine Initiative.

In order to prevent transmission of HIV from an infected mother to her child, Government of India is in the process of up-scaling prevention of parent to child transmission (PPTCT) programme. The programme has already covered 74 medical colleges and 15 district hospitals in six high prevalence States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland and Tamil Nadu.

- Provision of low cost care and support services by providing community care services, treatment of opportunistic infections and prevention of occupational exposure.

- Collaborative efforts to promote inter-sectoral programme activities including workplace interventions and public-private partnerships.

- Building technical and managerial capacities for programme implementation through Surveillance, Training, Monitoring and Evaluation, Technical resource groups, operational research and Programme management.